

Claims

1. (cancelled)
2. (cancelled)
3. (cancelled)
4. (cancelled)
5. (cancelled)
6. (cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) A deformable drawing tablet ~~according to claim 4~~ comprising:
a series of individual elongate strips;
means confining the strips together for limited relative longitudinal movement
over each other in parallel, coplanar relation, so that respective adjacent longitudinal
edge portions of the strips are exposed and combine to form a drawing surface of the
tablet and so that a user can shift individual strips longitudinally to deform the drawing
tablet and thereby distort an image carried by the drawing surface, the strips being
formed with longitudinally extending, locating slots and the confining means comprising
a post extending transversely of said strips through said slots in longitudinally sliding
relation therewith transversely of the post, a cap member and a base member
respectively being secured to opposite, upper and lower ends of the post, respectively,
clamping the strips between them as stack, wherein the cap member provides a holder
for an eraser for removing an image drawn on the drawing surface.

8. (Currently Amended) A deformable drawing tablet ~~according to claim 4~~ comprising:
a series of individual elongate strips;
means confining the strips together for limited relative longitudinal movement
over each other in parallel, coplanar relation, so that respective adjacent longitudinal
edge portions of the strips are exposed and combine to form a drawing surface of the
tablet and so that a user can shift individual strips longitudinally to deform the drawing
tablet and thereby distort an image carried by the drawing surface, the strips being

formed with longitudinally extending, locating slots and the confining means comprising a post extending transversely of said strips through said slots in longitudinally sliding relation therewith transversely of the post, a cap member and a base member respectively being secured to opposite, upper and lower ends of the post, respectively, clamping the strips between them as stack, wherein the base member provides a holder for an implement for drawing an image on the drawing surface.

9. (Currently amended) A deformable drawing tablet ~~according to claim 3~~ comprising:
a series of individual elongate strips;

means confining the strips together for limited relative longitudinal movement over each other in parallel, coplanar relation, so that respective adjacent longitudinal edge portions of the strips are exposed and combine to form a drawing surface of the tablet and so that a user can shift individual strips longitudinally to deform the drawing tablet and thereby distort an image carried by the drawing surface, wherein a lateral edge of the tablet is formed by respective longitudinal ends of the strips so that the lateral edge can be formed into profiles of different characters by shifting the strips longitudinally to different relative positions.

In combination with a die for application along the lateral edge of the tablet to shift individual strips into predetermined different positions to form one of said profiles.

10. (Original) A deformable drawing tablet according to claim 9 wherein the die is provided with at least one cut-out by which an image can be stenciled onto the drawing surface.

11. (Currently amended) [An] A hand-held amusement device comprising a series of elongate strips, means concealed between the strips confining the strips stacked one on top of the other in parallel, coplanar relation with exposed adjacent longitudinal edge portions of the strips extending horizontally and together forming an image carrying surface uninterrupted by confining means and adjacent longitudinal end portions of the

strips being exposed to form a transverse, vertically extending, [side] edge of the image carrying surface, individual strips being movable longitudinally over each other by finger pressure on the end portions of the strips to one of deform an image on the image carrying surface and form the transverse, vertically extending [side] edge of the image carrying surface into a profile of a face of a character [face] which can extend from the vertical edge uninterrupted over a remainder of the image carrying surface, the strips being thin so that continuity of the profile is maintained enabling facial expressions of a character to be changed.

12. (original) An amusement device according to claim 11 wherein the strips move by sliding over each other.

13. (original) An amusement device according to claim 11 wherein the strips are formed with longitudinally extending, locating slots and the confining means comprises a post extending transversely of said strips through said slots in longitudinally sliding relation therewith transversely of the post, a cap member and a base member respectively being secured to opposite, upper and lower ends of the post, respectively, clamping the strips between them as a stack.

14. (Currently amended) An amusement device according to claim [13] 11 wherein the cap member has a profile of a hat with a crown located centrally of a brim so as to be symmetrical for selective display on the drawing surface of a front view of a character's face and side views of a character's face.

15. (Currently amended) An amusement device according to claim [13] 11 wherein the base member has a profile of a symmetrical collar for selective display on the drawing surface of a front view of a character's face and side views of a character's face.

16. (Currently amended) An amusement device ~~according to claim 13~~ comprising:

a series of individual elongate strips;

means confining the strips together for limited relative longitudinal movement over each other in parallel, coplanar relation, so that respective adjacent longitudinal edge portions of the strips are exposed and combine to form a drawing surface of the tablet and so that a user can shift individual strips longitudinally to deform the drawing tablet and thereby distort an image carried by the drawing surface, the strips being formed with longitudinally extending, locating slots and the confining means comprising a post extending transversely of said strips through said slots in longitudinally sliding relation therewith transversely of the post, a cap member and a base member respectively being secured to opposite, upper and lower ends of the post, respectively, clamping the strips between them as stack, wherein the cap member provides a holder for an eraser for removing an image drawn on the drawing surface.

17. (Currently amended) An amusement device according to claim 13

comprising:

a series of individual elongate strips;

means confining the strips together for limited relative longitudinal movement over each other in parallel, coplanar relation, so that respective adjacent longitudinal edge portions of the strips are exposed and combine to form a drawing surface of the tablet and so that a user can shift individual strips longitudinally to deform the drawing tablet and thereby distort an image carried by the drawing surface, the strips being formed with longitudinally extending, locating slots and the confining means comprising a post extending transversely of said strips through said slots in longitudinally sliding relation therewith transversely of the post, a cap member and a base member respectively being secured to opposite, upper and lower ends of the post, respectively, clamping the strips between them as stack, wherein the base member provides a holder for an implement for drawing an image on the drawing surface.

18. (Currently amended) A deformable drawing tablet comprising a series of elongate strips, means confining the strips stacked one on top of the other in parallel, coplanar relation with exposed adjacent longitudinal edge portions of the strips together forming a drawing surface and adjacent longitudinal end portions of the strips being exposed to form a transverse side edge of the drawing surface, individual strips being movable longitudinally over each other by a user to form the transverse side edge into a profile of a character so that an associated image can then be drawn on the drawing surface by the user to illustrate the profile, creating an image of the character wherein the drawing surface comprises a luminescent plastic material on which an image can be drawn with a light pen so that the image provides a transient residual glow.

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Cancelled)

21. (New) An amusement device according to claim 11 which has a size of a key ring fob.

22. (New) A method for forming a changeable image of a profile of a face of a character comprising:

providing a hand - held amusement device comprising a series of elongate strips, means confining the strips stacked one on top of the other in parallel, coplanar relation with exposed adjacent longitudinal edge portions of the strips extending horizontally and together forming an image carrying surface and adjacent longitudinal end portions of the strips being exposed to form a transverse, vertically extending, edge of the image carrying surface, the means confining the strips being concealed between adjacent strips so that the image carrying surface extends from the edge uninterrupted by confining means,

moving individual strips longitudinally over each other by finger pressure on the end portions of the strips to one of deform an image on the image carrying surface and

form the transverse, vertically extending edge of the image carrying surface into a profile of a face of a character which face extends from the vertical edge uninterrupted over the remainder of the image carrying surface, the strips being thin so that continuity of the profile is maintained enabling facial expressions of a character to be changed.